

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 02314 210052Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----007616 210054Z /65

O 210005Z JUL 77

FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4555
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE
USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 2314

EXDIS

GENEVA FOR AMBASSADOR YOUNG

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, US, SF, WA

SUBJ: AMB LEONARD MEETS WITH SYG WALDHEIM

REF: USUN 2243 (EXDIS)

1. SUMMARY: AMB LEONARD MET JULY 18 WITH SYG WALDHEIM
TO GIVE HIM TEXT OF LETTER FROM VANCE CONCERNING NAMIBIA.
LEONARD AND WALDHEIM DISCUSSED SYG'S RATHER NEGATIVE VIEWS ON
NAMIBIA BASED UPON HIS RECENT TRIP TO LIBREVILLE.
END SUMMARY.

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2. AMB LEONARD MET AM JULY 19 WITH SYG WALDHEIM TO GIVE
HIM TEXT OF LETTER (REFTEL) CONCERNING NAMIBIA WHICH
SECRETARY VANCE IS SENDING WALDHEIM ON BEHALF OF WESTERN
FIVE FOREIGN MINISTERS. IN PRESENTING TEXT OF SYG, LEONARD
INDICATED THAT WESTERN FIVE UNDERSTAND UN'S JURIDICAL
PROBLEM REGARDING NAMIBIA AND THAT FIVE ARE ONLY ASKING
HIM TO BEGIN CONTINGENCY PLANNING SO THAT ALL PARTIES CAN

HAVE A CLEAR UNDERSTANDING OF THE ROLE WHICH A UN SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE MIGHT PLAY IN NAMIBIA IF A RESOLUTION OF THE NAMIBIAN QUESTION WERE TO EMERGE ALONG THE LINES CURRENTLY BEING EXPLORED. LEONARD EMPHASIZED THAT AT PRESENT SAG SIDE OF TRANSITIONAL AUTHORITY IS CLEAR BUT THAT UN SIDE IS VAGUE. TRANSITIONAL AUTHORITY WILL NOT RECEIVE BROAD SUPPORT UNTIL UN SIDE BECOMES CLEAR.

3. AFTER READING TEXT, WALDHEIM, WHO HAS RECENTLY RETURNED FROM LIBREVILLE, SAID, "THE PROBLEM FOR ME IS THAT ALL AFRICANS WITH WHOM I HAVE SPOKEN IN LIBREVILLE HAVE REJECTED EFFORTS OF WESTERN FIVE." EVEN KAUNDA, WHO IS A MODERATE, SAID WALDHEIM, SAID THAT IT IS OUT OF THE QUESTION FOR THE ADMINISTRATOR GENERAL TO BE APPOINTED BY SAG. (WALDHEIM DID INDICATE TO LEONARD THAT ONLY FRONT-LINE HEAD OF STATE WITH WHOM HE SPOKE AT LIBREVILLE WAS KAUNDA BUT THAT HE ALSO SPOKE TO NIGERIAN HEAD OF STATE OBASANJO AS WELL AS FOREIGN MINISTERS OF FRONT-LINE STATES. HE FURTHER INDICATED THAT HE HAD RECENTLY RECEIVED LETTER FROM PRESIDENT SENGHOR OF SENEGAL EXPRESSING RELATIVELY POSITIVE ATTITUDE TOWARD WESTERN INITIATIVE.) LEONARD REPLIED THAT THE ATTITUDE GENERALLY EXPRESSED TO FIVE BY AFRICAN HEADS OF STATE AND OTHER OFFICIALS HAS NOT BEEN ONE OF REJECTION BUT RATHER HAS BEEN AN EXPRESSION OF SERIOUS RESERVATIONS AND HOPE THAT WESTERN EFFORTS COULD MEET THEIR CONCERNS. LEONARD CITED CONFIDENTIAL

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NYERERE AS ONE WHO HAS BEEN PARTICULARLY POSITIVE IN HIS APPROACH. FURTHERMORE, LEONARD STATED THAT KAUNDA IS THE MOST PESSIMISTIC OF THE AFRICAN LEADERS ON THIS SUBJECT.

4. WALDHEIM WENT ON TO SAY THAT THE AFRICANS WITH WHOM HE SPOKE EXPRESSED TWO MAJOR CONCERNS:

1) THAT ADMINISTRATOR GENERAL MUST NOT BE APPOINTED BY SAG; AND 2) THAT SAG TROOPS MUST BE WITHDRAWN FROM NAMIBIA PRIOR TO ELECTIONS. WALDHEIM DID GIVE IMPRESSION THAT HE FELT COMPROMISES COULD BE WORKED OUT ON THESE TWO POINTS, BUT HE DID NOT IMPLY ANY INVOLVEMENT ON HIS PART IN WORKING OUT THOSE COMPROMISES.

5. IN DISCUSSING BRIEFLY HIS TWO CONVERSATIONS WITH NUJOMA, WALDHEIM STATED THAT NUJOMA SHARED ABOVE TWO CONCERNS. HE FURTHER STATED THAT NUJOMA BELIEVED THAT POSSIBILITY OF INTIMIDATION BY SOUTH AFRICAN POLICE COULD BE ELIMINATED THROUGH INSTITUTION OF CONCEPT OF THREE-MEN-IN-A-JEEP. THREE MEN WOULD BE SOUTH AFRICAN POLICEMAN, ACCOMPANIED BY ONE UN OFFICIAL AND ONE MEMBER OF SWQPO. WALDHEIM FURTHER INDICATED THAT NUJOMA EXPECTS AHTISAARI TO BE APPOINTED SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE.

6. IN DISCUSSING NEED TO CLARIFY UN SIDE OF TRANSITIONAL AUTHORITY, LEONARD EXPRESSED DESIRE OF FIVE TO DISCUSS POSSIBILITIES FOR UN INVOLVEMENT WITH MEMBERS OF SYG'S STAFF. WALDHEIM RESPONDED THAT, IF HE HAD KNOWN IN ADVANCE SUBJECT OF PRESENT MEETING, HE COULD HAVE ASKED MYLES MINCHIN, IN ABSENCE OF ASSISTANT SYG FARAH, TO ATTEND THE MEETING. WALDHEIM FURTHER INDICATED THAT MINCHIN WOULD BE BEST PERSON ON HIS STAFF TO FOLLOW UP ON THIS CONVERSATION. (NOTE: MINCHIN IS PRESENTLY CHIEF OF SECRETARIAT SERVICES IN THE UN'S DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL AFFAIRS, TRUSTEESHIP, AND DECOLONIZATION. A BRITISH CITIZEN, HE HAS LONG EXPERIENCE WITH UN INVOLVEMENT IN AFRICA AND IS HIGHLY REGARDED
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BY AM MURRAY (UK) AND OTHER BRITISH MISOFFS.)

7. AT CONCLUSION OF MEETING, LEONARD STRESSED THAT WESTERN FIVE UNDERSTAND UN'S JURIDICAL POSITION REGARDING NAMIBIA BUT THAT LEGALISTIC PROBLEMS MUST NOT BE ALLOWED TO BLOCK INITIATIVE WHICH HAS SHOWN PROMISE FOR PEACEFUL SOLUTION TO NAMIBIAN QUESTION.

8. COMMENT: IMPACT OF LETTER FROM VANCE AND OTHER WESTERN FIVE FONMINS CANNOT YET BE ESTIMATED. WALDHEIM CONTINUES TO EXHIBIT UNWILLINGNESS TO BEGIN EVEN CONTINGENCY PLANNING FOR UN INVOLVEMENT IN NAMIBIA WITHOUT ENCOURAGEMENT FROM SWAPO. HOWEVER, WALDHEIM'S MENTION OF MINCHIN MAY BE POSITIVE SIGN. FIVE WILL BE MEETING WITH WALDHEIM JULY 21 AT HIS REQUEST AND WILL CONTINUE TO PUSH HIM ON THIS MATTER.
LEONARD

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